



NEWS SCOPE

A newsletter for designers, collectors and lovers of kaleidoscopes

Vol. 24 No. 4
Fall 2009



Looking Towards the Future with the BKS



The 2010 BKS convention will be in Santa Clara, California, close to the San Jose Airport, at a four-star hotel (the Regency Hyatt) with a two-star hotel rate of \$112 per night. Many popular events are being planned. Special materials and memorabilia will be there for your viewing. The finest scope makers and scopes will be there for your sharing and viewing. And your best scope friends will be there to enjoy the event with you. This is what you asked for in our recent survey. We sincerely hope that you will join us for this momentous convention.

**Hold the dates: June 11 - June 13, 2010
(artists and retailers arrive June 10).**

**The registration form and final details will
be in your next edition of NewsScope.**

With great appreciation to the 93 respondents to our convention questionnaire, we can only say, "We hear you, and your ideas are wonderful!" **You will see them at the 2010 BKS convention.**

Here's what you told us. You overwhelmingly want the **Friday through Sunday format**. Complexities of travel, costs of getting there, desire for sufficient time together, and preference for a full range of events were your primary reasons. All other meeting formats were considered "rather not" by our members.

You've told us that you would like to meet in the **spring, in a large city by the city center or in a small, quiet location**. Two thirds of you would rather have our meeting every other year, and almost everyone stated a preference for a **middle-of-the-road full-service facility** (two or three stars). Although there previously had been suggestions of bare-bones, arrange your own place to stay, buy your own budget meals style conventions, our membership clearly does not favor that alternative.

Your strong, continuing preferences, in terms of convention activities, include having an **unveiling, wholesale and retail sales/display rooms, banquet, workshops, topical speakers and availability of an informal socializing and discussion area**. Additionally, a **membership meeting, question and answer session, activities for new artists, and a broader range of awards** were suggested. Two traditional areas, the talent show and the Sunday morning inspirational speaker, were listed as "don't care" or "rather not" by a majority of respondents.

For this special 20th anniversary celebration, you responded to, clarified, and suggested several special activities that we plan to conduct. Among these activities are:

- A design retrospective
- A display of significant scope developments
- A written historical review of the last 20 years of the Brewster Kaleidoscope Society
- Videos and photographs of past special events and conventions
- A special memento of the 20th anniversary event
- Special awards and recognitions

(continued on page 13)

The Brewster Kaleidoscope Society Mission Statement:

The Brewster Kaleidoscope Society is a unique organization which provides a forum for artists, collectors, and retailers to promote and perpetuate kaleidoscopes as an art form.

••• Important : 2010 Renewal Time •••

To simplify the membership renewal process, instead of sending out notices, please look at your mailing label on this newsletter.

If your **NAME** appears in **BLACK**, then 2010 dues are already paid and no action is needed.

If your **NAME** appears in **RED**, then your 2010 dues need to be paid by January 1, 2010.

Please pay 2010 dues before January 1, 2010.

Continental U.S. Members : One year ... \$60 or 2 years ... \$100

International Members : One year ... \$70 or 2 years ... \$120

A link on the Brewster website connects to an online membership form that allows you to pay safely, securely and conveniently by credit card.

Simply click on the "JOIN or RENEW" link at
www.brewstersociety.com.

Make your membership selection and update your membership contact information. You will get your receipt and confirmation in seconds by email. (The BKS prefers you to use this method. Thank you.)

If you prefer to mail your dues:

The Brewster site has a new interactive membership (pdf) form. This is a fill-in form where you can insert the information directly and then print it out.

Mail the form with your payment* to the address below.

If your contact and membership information is still the same as last year, just send a check or money order made payable to
The Brewster Society.

MAIL TO:

Mary T. Boll, BKS Membership Coordinator
1032 North Street
Wheelersburg, OH 45694, USA

*International Members please pay by

Postal or International money orders in US dollars if mailing your payment.

If you have any questions:

email mboll@adelphia.net or call 740-352-2310.

ブリュースター・カレイドスコープソサエティーは
万華鏡を楽しむ人たち(コレクター、作家、販売業者)の
国際的な会員組織です

あなたもぜひ、第 20 回のコンベンションにご参加ください

場所: アメリカ、カリフォルニア州 サンタクララ

時: 2010 年 6 月 11 日 ~ 13 日

Brewster Kaleidoscope Society

PO Box 95

Damascus MD 20872

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PASSWORD

To access the

Members Only Section on
www.brewstersociety.com

Username: **bksmember**

Password: **2009scopes**

Ad Space Available

We invite you to take advantage of the expanding newsletter to:

- Extend your marketing
- Target a select audience
- Promote your artwork
- Promote your gallery or store

For more information
contact:

Charles Karadimos

301-253-5789 or

Karascopes@aol.com

Ad rate sheet available at

www.brewstersociety.com/join.html



Cozy's Column

A Weekend of Happy Colors

Kaleidoscope enthusiasts from New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Missouri, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Japan joined Maryland Brewster members for a nostalgic regional meeting in Bethesda, September 11. Many of Cozy's scopes found a happy new home, and the remaining ones were transferred to the Mini Museum from the Cozy Baker Collection at the Boal's Kaleidoscope Shop in Atlanta, Georgia. So, if at any time, readers would like to purchase a historic memento from Cozy's well-documented collection, just call the Boal's shop at 678-937-2673.

After a morning of getting acquainted, informal meetings, scope viewing, and lunch, most of the group visited the popular 12th Annual Kaleidoscope show at Arts Afire in Alexandria, and then attended Fred Gumbinner's delightful supper party in Oakton, Virginia, where they were able to enjoy another noteworthy scope collection..



I strongly urge members in other areas to plan and organize small regional meetings. It is a wonderful way to keep in touch, up-to-date, and in the loop, as well as enjoy extraordinary camaraderie of like-minded scope-mates.

The question most often put to me was, "How many scopes did you move to your new home?" This morning I decided to count them – and here is the answer, room by room:

Foyer – 13, Bathroom – 1, Bedroom – 17, Kitchen and Dining area – 12, Living room – 89, Den – 44, swimming pool/spa – 1, outside – 2, and the kaleidoscope loft, accessible via a brass-gated see-through elevator (with a phone) – 196, including the world's largest hand-manipulated scope by Al Brickel, and Dave Fulkerson's fabulous "Geo" with its two TVs and DVD player, and of course the monumental gift of a doll-house size replica of three rooms in my home, complete with miniature models of many of the artist's kaleidoscopes, presented to me by Dick Pope and all the kaleidoscope artists at the Brewster Society Convention in Corning, New York.



Arts Afire Annual Kaleidoscope Show

Arts Afire Glass Gallery's 12th Annual Kaleidoscope Show suggests that the economy may be back on track. The three days of receptions, Friday, Saturday and Sunday produced as many sales as last year's reception. We enjoyed a good turn-out all three days, and many of the Brewster Society Members that came to attend Cozy's Regional Meeting made their way to Alexandria for the show. Junko Aragane and Yasuko Nakazato made their way all the way from Japan. That was impressive. We were delighted to



visit with other gallery owners and many of Brewsters' members that came to see the show. The Brewster Society Membership truly is a family, and the way we support one another is indeed heart-warming.

Our guest artist, Marc Tickle joyfully explained his unique mirror system to us and introduced his new "Magic Lantern" scope, resulting in the sale of the first in the series. Several scope artists sent in scopes especially for the show which coincided with the Alexandria City's Annual Festival of the Arts Street Event. A good time was had by all.



BKS Membership
Mary Theresa Boll
BKS Membership Coordinator

The Brewster Membership as of September 14, 2009 represents 533 BKS members with 463 paid memberships. There are already 140 members signed up for 2010 and a few for 2011. This list now represents about 160 artists, 68 retailers and 290 collectors. We also have several suppliers, one Library and a museum listed as members. Artists and Retailers are listed on the www.brewstersociety.com website.

We are still receiving new members from the retailers' promotions by Reflections Gallery and Designs in Shell. The Twelve Point Star Retailer Bonus Program is for retailers who wish to sponsor new BKS members at a special first year introductory rate. Retailers please contact me for details of the benefits of this program and forms.

If anyone knows of someone that you think would enjoy being a Brewster Member, please email or send me their address and I will be happy to send them an invitation to join or rejoin. A Brewster membership would make a great Christmas gift. If anyone would like to renew their membership for 2010 or 2011, you may do so at any time either by using our online form or simply sending a check.

Please email me any changes in mailing addresses or emails and I will update our contact list. If you have not received an email in August or September from the Brewster Society, please email me at mboll@adelphia.net to update your email address.

I have also volunteered to handle the registration for the upcoming convention. Shortly there will be an online link on the BKS website for a registration form. Monika and Ulrich Karl from Germany and also Junko Aragane from Japan are helping me with some translations to get some of the form in other languages. If any other of our international language members would like to see our form in your language please contact me and I will send you what I need translated. My language of choice in school was Latin but I hear that it is a dead language now. (It's amazing how time flies.)

I made a trip this summer to the Stowe Craft Gallery in Vermont during their Kaleidoscope Festival. I really enjoyed the beautiful gallery that sits on the bank of the river that flows through Stowe with its two story balcony overlooking the river. The shop was full of many Kaleidoscopes and other gift items so I indulged in some Christmas shopping and had a wonderful time talking with the artists and shop staff. My niece, Trisha and nephew, Steven were with me though the tour of Ben and Jerry's may have been their favorite stop. Trisha says, "Hi" to all her Kaleidoscope friends that she met when we were in Atlanta a few years ago.

*Sie sind herzlich eingeladen, an der 20. Convention der Brewster
Kaleidoscope Society teilzunehmen.*

*Die BKS ist eine internationale Gesellschaft für alle, die Kaleidoskope
mögen, einschließlich Sammlern, Designern und Geschäftsleuten, die
Kaleidoskope verkaufen.*



Wee Wonder Wearables

3¼" long

Perfect for wearing, pockets, or desk.

Images are spectacular!

Secret Garden Kaleidoscopes
www.sgscopes.com

Check out our new website!

... Attention Members ...

If you have not been receiving email messages from us over the last couple of months, it means that we don't have an email address or updated address for you.

Please contact Mary T. Boll at
mboll@adelphia.net.



CBS Features Kaleidoscopes

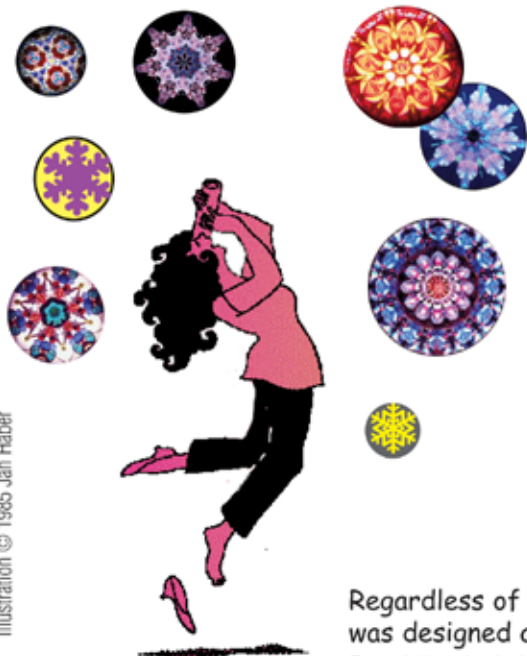
On August 16, CBS News Sunday Morning featured a segment about kaleidoscopes with Charles Karadimos, quilt artist Paula Nadelstern, and the exhibition at the American Folk Art Museum in NY City. A reported 30% increase in attendance at the museum along with a substantial increase in the number of hits on many kaleidoscope related web-sites resulted.

You can see a replay of this segment by visiting www.brewstersociety.com. A link has been provided on the bottom of the home page.

History of Kaleidoscopes from Hand of the Craftsman's viewpoint

- * 600 BC First K-scope called 1000 Flower Views - China
- * 1816 Brewster creates his scope names it Kaleidoscope
- * 1871 Bush make his fine scopes
- * 1971 Hand of the Craftsman opens in Nyack NY
- * 1972 Judith Karelitz shows us her polarized Kaleidoscope
- * 1974 Hand of the Craftsman first Invitational Kaleidoscope show
- * 1982 Front surface mirrors put into some kaleidoscopes
- * 1984 Cozy Baker drops by to tell us about her first K-book
- * 1984 Jan Haber Illustrates Cozy's K-book
- * 1985 1st pre Brewster show sponsored by HotC in Nyack,
- * 1996 HotC goes on the internet www.kaleidoscopesUSA.com
- * 1996 HotC makes its first internet sale to Mr. Roger Hudson
- * 2007 Noemi Gray 28th purchase from kaleidoscopesUSA.com
- * 2009 Noemi Gray's granddaughter Jill purchases first K-scope

Illustration © 1985 Jan Haber



Regardless of price, every kaleidoscope from Hand of the Craftsman was designed and made by a gifted American artist with skill, style and originality.
Enjoy! Jan & Shel Haber

Collector Kaleidoscopes - Fine New and Rare Old - Some Just a Joy to Have
established 1971 ... on the internet since 1996
KALEIDOSCOPE COLLECTOR from Hand of the Craftsman
www.kaleidoscopesUSA.com

Collier Kaleidoscopes Revival

I am pleased to announce that Collier Kaleidoscopes is coming out of retirement. I'm Michael Collier, the son of David and Terry Collier, and I will run the business for the next generation. I enjoyed designing kaleidoscopes full time from 1994-1998. During this time I collaborated with my father on hardwood kaleidoscopes such as Rainbow Storm and Moon Searcher. We also developed other mediums such as ceramic stoneware, fused glass and 3-D stereoscopic graphic design used on the exterior of the Eye-Mazing. I also designed the original Kaleidopod. Through these fundamental skills developed as a kaleidoscope artist, I was able to expand my creative exploration in the industrial design field working as a designer, developer and consultant on innovation projects for small and multi-national companies. A sample portfolio page of selected projects may be found at www.dsgnops.com.

Now with the decision to restart the family business in 2009, I am working on the evolution of a best selling



kaleidoscopes series called "Color Spirit". This line has also been expanded to include the new Snowflake, Seashore and Cherry Blossom Theme Spirits all inspired by nature through the lens of a kaleidoscope. (Please see Scoops on Scopes). On behalf of my family, I would like to thank the kaleidoscope community as we take on this new venture. The people who have supported and inspired us over the years feeds our excitement to return to this unique and special artistic culture. I can be reached at michael@collierkaleidoscopes.com or (503) 803-6534. We look forward to future shows and events to reconnect with you in the near future.

Toysmith acquires Gemini

By Staff -- Playthings, 6/22/2009

SUMNER, Wash.—Toysmith has purchased the assets of Gemini Kaleidoscopes for an undisclosed sum.

Kelienople, Pa.- based Gemini Kaleidoscopes offers a range of classic kaleidoscopes, marble scopes, miniature scopes, key chains and liquid scopes, including designs for special occasions and holidays. The company has been in operation since 1981.

Toysmith will maintain domestic production of the company's line. Limited shipping from Toysmith's Summer begins this month with a full rollout planned for August 2009.

Artist and Retailer Logos

If you are a BKS member artist or retailer, we encourage you to place a link on your website or printed copy which points to the BKS (www.brewstersociety.com). On the Members Only page of the BKS website, you'll find artist and retailer images to use for this purpose. By incorporating these links, you can promote both yourselves and the BKS, and provide greater visibility for both.



Show and Tell

submitted by Alan L. Tinter, Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Almost ten years ago, my wife and I were visiting her sister in Connecticut. Our then 6 year old nephew decided that for Show and Tell in his first grade class, he would bring in his Uncle from Florida. Not having any children of my own, I had no idea what to do as his Show and Tell "object". Afterall, it was my belief that most kids brought inanimate objects to their classes for this purpose.

So, I pondered what to do. Then it struck me – he could bring Uncle Alan and Uncle Alan would provide the inanimate objects – 5 or 6 kaleidoscopes from my collection of approximately 50 scopes (the collection has since grown to 100).

My nephew introduced me; I explained who I was, where I came from, and how different Florida is from Connecticut. I then began to bring out my kaleidoscopes. Eyes opened wide at just the sight of these magical instruments, even before they had the opportunity to view the mandalas. Then the competition began – "I had it first", "I'll trade you this one for that one", "I didn't see that one, yet", etc. But something strange happened. Although I tried to keep track of my scopes, the number in circulation amongst the first graders seemed to be reducing, until there was only one in circulation.

We looked toward the door at the back of the room. Two or three other teachers had drifted into the room and the scopes wound up in that adult circle, rather than with the kids. The teachers were more impressed with the kaleidoscopes than were the children!

Needless to say, my nephew was a big hit at Show and Tell that morning.

'Go west young man,'

.... Ralph Olsen, who had produced kaleidoscopes for years as Platte River Kaleidoscopes has done just that. Ralph closed up operations in Phillips, Nebraska and is now enjoying a Pacific Ocean view at the VA Medical Center in San Francisco. He is still dabbling with scopes as time permits. Once in your blood it's there for ever!



Recently however, Ralph entrusted Skip at Reflections Kaleidoscopes, in Mendocino, California, with most of his remaining stock of one-of-a-kind, limited edition, and production kaleidoscopes. Skip is currently unable to show all of Ralph's scopes in Reflection's small gallery space. If any other galleries,

shops, collectors, or enthusiasts familiar with Ralph's work are interested, contact Skip (info@Reflections-Kaleidoscopes.com) for a list of scopes available.

Skip is hoping to bring any of Ralph's remaining scopes to the Convention in Santa Clara next year to allow attendees to experience Ralph's work firsthand.

Should anyone wish to communicate with Ralph, his new address is:

VA Medical Center,
Bldg. 208, Rm. 114,
4150 Clement Street,
San Francisco, CA 94121

Fantasy Glass-Works presents the Chocolate Collection

And how Sweet it is!



Kaleidoscopes by Joanne and Mike Jacobs

We take our inspiration for making the world's most beautiful kaleidoscopes from the most delicious and decadent of culinary pleasures, CHOCOLATE! Feast your eyes on the finest kaleidoscopic chocolates. All come with our explosive "Baskin Robbins" chamber with over 31 eye-teasing optical treasures. Chose from: Chocolate Kiss, Chocolate Truffle, Hot Chocolate, Chocolate Mousse, Serengeti, and BonBon necklace kaleidoscope. So go to your favorite gallery or gift shop and ask them for a private "tasting" of the Chocolate Collection from your friends at Fantasy Glass Works.

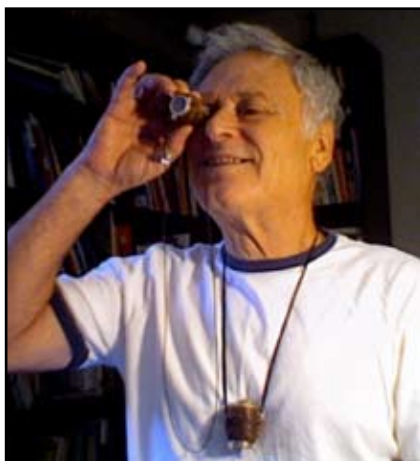
The David Katz Story

submitted by David Katz

Ten years ago (1999) I retired from my position at a scientific institute in Israel and joined Georgia State University (Atlanta, GA) as a visiting professor where I am doing research in Immuno-Virology. My colleague scientists call me an artist and among artists I am considered a scientist. To myself, I am what I am. I like the creativity in both fields. All my adult life I made my living from science. I enjoyed, and still do, the thrill of science but also enjoyed taking art classes in drawing, painting, carving, glass beads, jewelry and metal work.

I was first exposed to the art and craft of kaleidoscope at the John C. Campbell Folk School, NC (~2004). There I took classes from Scott Cole, David Baker and Sherry Moser. The colorful art of kaleidoscope making and many of the wonderful and enthusiastic artists were then revealed to me through books and publications of the "Brewster Society". So, now my new love is building kaleidoscopes. I like to

do it from found objects, bottles, candlesticks, vases, bamboo canes, PVC, aluminum and copper pipes, etc. I have also built two walking cane kaleidoscopes that I am proud of. As it happens (in science, as well) it is very difficult to be original. You may think that you did something new and then you find out that another human mind was thinking the same way. This should not be necessarily discouraging because it shows that you can come up independently with the same good ideas.



Here I am presenting a wearable, barrel shaped, kaleidoscope in a black walnut shell. The lid of the barrel and the base that is rotating a dry object chamber are made of sterling silver. The dimensions are 55 mm long and 38 mm wide. To view the images inside the scope the lid is removed to reveal the eyepiece lens. I really enjoyed the challenge to build this scope since I was able to fabricate all parts using and combining some of my wood working skills with my jewelry and metal working skills. I do hope that this creation is original... In any case, I hope y'all enjoy it.



Artist Name : **Jacqueline Bardner Smith**
 Scope Name : *Ginger Napz On Raku*
 One of a kind
 Mirror system : Two-mirror, 25.7 degree, 7 point
 Object case : Complimenting glass beads with special glass bits and pieces
 External features : Intricate hand sculpted polymer clay with unique patinas, internal bearings for smoother turning
 Dimensions : 1.5" W X 7.875" L
 Suggested retail price: \$575



Artist Name : **Martha Radford**
 Scope Name : *Bijou*
 Limited Edition
 Mirror system : Two-mirror, 5 pointed star
 Object case : Wheel
 External features : Stained glass with copper accents.
 Dimensions : 13" H x 9" L x 5" W
 Website: www.kaleidoscopestudios.com

Scoops on Scopes



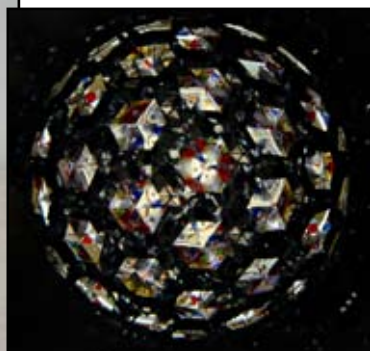
Artist Name : **Judith Paul and Tom Durden**
Images Kaleidoscopes
 Scope Name : *The French Connection* - 10 different color scopes with 10 different themes and 10 different mirror systems. bronze - art. red - romance. orange - sunset. yellow - sunflower. green- bistro. lavender - perfume. blue - countryside. pink - poodle. silver - pastry. purple - wine.



Open Editions
 Mirror system : 10 different ones
 Object case : Liquid filled cell themed to the exterior
 External features : Irresistible and affordable and liftable
 Dimensions : 14" x 6"
 Suggested retail price : \$295

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A color version of the newsletter is available for download at www.brewstersociety.com in the Members Only Section.



Artist Name : **Ichiro Seino**
 Scope Name : *Inori*
 One of a kind
 Mirror system : Tapered three-mirror
 Object case : Oil cell
 External features : Earthenware Ceramic art
 Dimensions : 20 cm tall



Artist Name : **Charles Karadimos**
 Scope Name : *Dichro II*
 Limited Edition of 12
 Mirror system : Tapered two-mirror system, 10-point
 Object case : Dichroic treated cell filled with dichroic glass (fused, lampworked, hand-cut, and heat-treated)
 External features : Clear and patterned dichroic glass fused and slumped into a cone shape, with handmade dichroic beads as accents on the side seams.
 Dimensions : 10" T
 Website : www.Karascope.com



Artist Name : **Michael Collier**
 Scope Name : *Cherry Blossom, Snowflake and Seashore Theme Spirits*
 Open Edition
 Mirror system : Two-mirror, "Side-Lit" reservoir with black background

Object case : Cherry Blossom: Sculpted Polymer Clay.
 Seashore: Mixed Seashells.
 Snowflake: Black/silver/white theme creates snowflake simulator.
 External features : Custom designed artwork by Michael Collier wraps each scope theme. Lens/dust protector in eyepiece.
 Turner base.
 Dimensions : 8" L x 2.875" diameter
 Suggested retail price : \$48



Artist Name : **Sue Rioux**
 Scope Name : *Astro*
 Limited Edition
 Mirror system : Three-mirror
 Object case : Oil
 External features : Polymer Clay, glass eyes, oil filled chamber with bone ends!
 Dimensions : 9" L x 9" H x 4" W
 Suggested retail price : \$350



Artist Name : **Charles J Sorg**
 Scope Name : *Full Circle*
 One of a kind
 Mirror system : Two-mirror, 12 sided system
 Object case : All glass, dry cell containing: lampworked glass, agates, amethyst, carnelian, peridot and sea shells.
 External features : Charles writes "The front alone took six firings in the kiln. Altogether it took nine firings in the kiln and a total of 20 days to finish. Its name is: 'FULL CIRCLE' because it is the first painting I've done with my airbrush in over ten years and the first time on (in) glass. This scope is based on a painting I airbrushed in 1994."
 Dimensions : 12" H x 8" W x 4" D



Artist Name : **Joanne and Mike Jacobs**
Fantasy Glass Works

Scope Name : *The Chocolate Collection*

A series of 6 kaleidoscopes: Chocolate Kiss, Hot Chocolate, Chocolate Truffle, Chocolate Mousse, Serengeti, and BonBon Necklace Kaleidoscope.

Open Edition

Mirror system : 1. Chocolate Kiss 3-sided, 60x60x60 degrees
 2. Hot Chocolate 3-sided, 30x30x120 degrees
 3. Chocolate Truffle 3-sided 75x75x75,
 4. Chocolate Mousse 4-sided
 5. Serengeti, 2 sided with golden crushed foil as third side

Object case : Oil-filled object chamber, brimming with over 31 optical treasures. The colors are reminiscent of Baskin Robbins. External features : All scopes have a luscious chocolate brown body. When we teamed them up with our "Baskin Robbins" object chamber, they create a sensual visual experience.

Bon appetite!

Dimensions : 7" to 8" long



Artist Name : **Kari Makoutz**

Scope Name : *Large Mouth Bass*
 Limited Edition

Mirror system : Two-mirror

Object case : Hand blown, oil filled

External features : Magnetically removable tail (to access lens)

Dimensions : Approx 13" with tail x 4" T

Website : GlobeScopes.com



A Projection Kaleidoscope Breakthrough

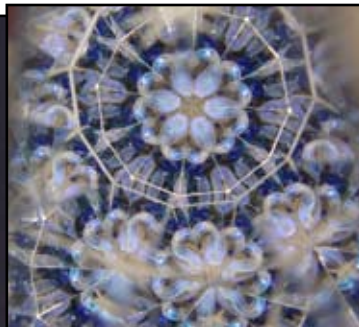
Jerry Farnsworth, in his constant search for more ways to add kaleidoscopes to life, has crossed the digital divide. He has created a kaleidoscopic lens system that attaches to the new Sony Webbie HD camera without any alterations to the 5MP Camera/ HD video combination. Images can be recorded or sent in realtime to a TV or projected with the use of a digital projector. Capture your friends or garden flowers in a kaleidoscopic image or movie.

Cost \$190.00 not including camera.

(Street price of the camera is \$150.00)

See www.projectionkaleidoscope.com

More Scoops



Artist Name : **Yasuko Nakazato**

Scope Name : *Still In a Dream*

Limited Edition of 3

Mirror system : Prism isosceles triangle (30 degree 5 point)

Object case : Turning drycell contains lampworked dichroic glass pieces and glass beads

External features : Sculpture of 50 layered sheets of glass. Transparency of the prism adds beauty to it. Zigzag brass adorns the glass base and supports the object cell.

Dimensions : 14" H x 10" W x 6" D

New Kaleidoscope Museum in Japan

story submitted by Junko Aragane



A new kaleidoscope museum opened this summer in Furano, Hokkaido, the north island of Japan. Furano is a small rural town surrounded by mountains and fields of rice, corn and vegetables. The wooden building of a former primary school which was built 98 years ago and was closed last year has been converted to a unique museum by Ikuya Mitsui who has now realized his dream.

There is no remodeled part in this building and class rooms are used as exhibition spaces. So visitors, both children and adults, have familiar and nostalgic feeling once they entered this wooden building. And there are many kinds of kaleidoscopes waiting for them.

The purpose of this museum is to give people, especially children, enjoyment and inspiration through kaleidoscopic experiences.

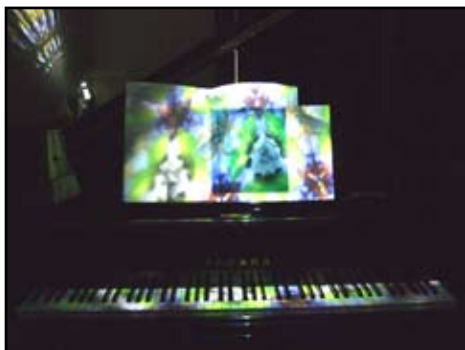
Mr. Mitsui had to solve many problems in the process to achieve this project, however, there are people who share the same dream and help him. Among them the kaleidoscope artists, Mitsuru and Yuriko Yoda did a great job for this museum by producing special exhibition rooms with their projection kaleidoscopes and large sized kaleidoscopes for entertainment. At the entrance there is a large kaleidoscope made from a wine cask which captures every visitor's eyes and mind.



In the library, there is a big screen of shadowgraph with projected kaleidoscope images. Sitting in the sofa in the dark room, people enjoy changing images accompanied with music and feel relaxed.

In the gymnasium, there are many kaleidoscopes including Yoda's large creations.

In the music room, people enjoy projected images on the wall, paper craft, balloons, screens and even on a piano keyboard and a sheet of music.



There was a jazz concert in August and people enjoyed unique experiences surrounded by the beautifully changing images with live music. Private collection of Mitsui which includes antique kaleidoscopes and toy kaleidoscopes as well is also exhibited in another class room. If the visitors have enough time, they can also make simple kaleidoscopes for their own.

There seems to be unlimited possibilities for this just born museum and we hope it stays a warm and comfortable place for kaleidoscope lovers for many years to come.



R Scott Cole
Tips and Techniques Specialist
Photographing Kaleidoscope Images

Does your digital camera have a kaleidoscope image setting? Neither does mine. But that doesn't mean you can't take quality photographs of your favorite interior images. Prior to digital, it was necessary to use a Single Lens Reflex camera with an appropriate lens to get a clear shot. Nowadays, although a dSLR may provide some advantages, a decent compact digital, with its smaller diameter lens, can provide all that is necessary for impressive pictures.

In setting up your shots, both the kaleidoscope and the camera must be at rest. The shutter speed is likely to be too slow for either to be hand-held. A tripod will help if you are not working on a horizontal plane, but any solid support (like a book) to line up the camera lens with the eyepiece will work. The lens should be as close as possible and parallel to the scope so the eyepiece will not be in focus and to eliminate any ambient light. You will need a light source directed at the object chamber. If the scope is pointing down (like a parlor-scope) a mirror on the table can be used to direct overhead light back up toward the objects.

Most digital cameras have a small zoom, 3X is common, and that will allow you to adjust for different lengths of scopes. There is also a macro setting (the ubiquitous tulip) that often helps with shorter distances. In composing your shot, use the LCD screen rather than the viewfinder.

There are several factors about the scopes themselves that influence the outcome. If you are using a 3-mirror configuration, you have an image that continues to reflect as it approaches the camera. Due to depth of field issues, it will lose focus toward the outer edge. This can be alleviated somewhat by providing sufficient light and manually increasing the f stop to 16 (or above). A 2-mirror scope does not have this problem, but it can be challenging if you want to capture the precision symmetry that the best scopes offer. The most symmetrical image is viewed directly down the narrow angle of the mirrors, which may be easier without an eyepiece. If the eyepiece has a center hole, there will be some distortion of the symmetry, but some of this can be minimized by rotating the scope (and thus the mirror angle). With the narrow angle pointing down, the image is clustered more in the center, while pointing up fills the perimeter. You can experiment to find the most pleasing density and symmetry.

Even with a small lens, the image will not likely fill the frame of the picture. Though all else should be dark, simple photo editing software will allow you to crop all but the kaleidoscope image. While you are editing, maybe you'll decide to add just a little more blue....

Scott teaches many classes throughout the year ...
See the back cover for dates.

Atlanta Honored

submitted by Jan and Bobby Boal
Kaleidoscope Shop, Atlanta GA



We were recently asked by American Style Magazine to present a plaque honoring Atlanta to Mayor Shirley Franklin. Atlanta was selected by readers of the magazine as one of the top 25 cities in the United States that actively support the arts. Here Jan is presenting Mayor Franklin with a beautiful Chesnik scope and introducing her to the kaleidoscope world.

WILEY JOBE
SCOPEWORKS

FINE-HAND CRAFTED POLY-ANGULAR KALEIDOSCOPIES SINCE 1987



Now & then,
we scope artists
have to do a little
machine maintenance.
Here I am making
a little adjustment
to the shop
compressor

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Kaleidoscope Show in Stowe, Vermont

submitted by Stephen and Susan Fishman

Between July 17 and August 2, over 2,000 people visited the 8th annual Stowe Craft kaleidoscope show. This year's show was coordinated entirely by store manager Kelly Player along with staff and volunteers. Visitors met staffers Kris Michaud, Christine Holder and Laura Klein who put in many extra days and hours. Kelly's husband Chris set up a teaching tent by the river where kids learned to make kaleidoscopes from kits the entire weekend. (Thank you to Mary Wills who supplied kits from her private stash). Even our kids helped: Ari Fishman flew in from Park City, Utah and Noah and Marlena Fishman drove down from St. Albans, Vermont. Other volunteers included friends, former staff and their relatives.



All Brewster Kaleidoscope makers were invited to show at this year's event. We ended up with fresh work from 28 different artists. For those artists who made sales, the average total sales per artist was slightly over \$700.00 and the median selling price was \$91.50 per 'scope.

Visitors said:

"Having the 'scope making next to the river worked really well for us parents" - "The natural sunlight on the decks made viewing great".

Visitors also voted for best kaleidoscopes:

Exterior: Massimo Strino, "A Victorian Dream"

Interior: (A 3 - Way Tie) Tom & Carol Paretti's "Slow Yo", Charles Karadimos' "Mandala", and David & Nadreh Sugich's "Nova 3 D Explosion"

After the show, a random drawing was held and two were selected to receive a wheel kaleidoscope from either Chesnik or N & J Enterprises (the new Big Muddy).

Overall, we feel we saw a resurgence of kaleidoscope interest this year. Many visitors stayed for hours. Others revisited several times. Several people were helped to start new kaleidoscope collections. We met and saw collectors from as far as Southern California and Texas and they all found new pieces to take home. We are optimistic about next years show in July. Our website stowecraft.com has pictures and videos from the show as well as details about the next Vermont kaleidoscope show.

Classified Ads

I'd love to hear from collectors who might be interested in trading for (or purchasing) some of my duplicates.

William.Novak@comcast.net

Did you know we have space for Classified Ads???

Check this out! Here is the perfect place to bare your wares or your soul. This is empty space right now but it could be filled with really exciting items and services that would benefit or enrich your life. Classified ads are a fantastic and cost effective way to let others know what you have to sell. Maybe it is one of your works of art, a special scope from a treasured collection or maybe it is accumulated supplies that you would like to trade or sell. Or ... maybe you have a special skill such as cutting mirrors or assembling them and you would be interested in doing this for a fee. Maybe you just want to test market a new scope or kaleidoscope related item.

Rates: \$1/word ... minimum 10 words.

Looking Towards the Future with the BKS

(continued from front page)

Additionally, you suggested activities which we hope to introduce (or re-introduce) on a regular basis.

- A display (and sales) table for early career artists
- Life-size and outdoor scopes
- Means to encourage the involvement of retailers throughout the convention
- A session on special and complex mirror systems
- Considerations for non-US scope makers
- Silent auction
- Subtleties of scope collecting mirrors, designs, object cells, age, etc.

You have our assurance that your excellent ideas have been heard, and your preferences will be seriously considered.

Additionally, our second survey on strategic direction, organization, structure, and focus for the Brewster Kaleidoscope Society will be available next month for your participation.

If there are any special topics which you'd like to see covered in that survey, please call Bob Sabath at 262-552-7180 or send an e-mail to rsabath@sabathsupplychain.com.

Featured Gallery : KaleidoKites



A trip to KaleidoKites in Eureka Springs, Arkansas takes you to the beautiful Ozark mountains. Located in the northwest corner of the state, Eureka Springs has been referred to as "Little Switzerland" – the mountains are smaller but it is a town literally carved into the side of a mountain, where many of the streets never intersect. An art destination with resident artists and galleries, Eureka Springs has the distinction of being listed in Ripley's Believe It or Not five (5) times. A haven for the "hippies" of the sixties, many came and never left but have found a peaceful, if somewhat interesting, coexistence with the "mountain people" who migrated from England and Ireland years ago.

In 1990, Linda and Steve Rogers were on their way to someplace else when they stumbled across Eureka Springs and decided it was the perfect place to open the shop of their dreams. Both had been kaleidoscope collectors for 12 years and Steve had flown kites for 40, so KaleidoKites was born. It has grown to represent 65 kaleidoscope artists and hosts one of the premier kite "flys" of the region. The first kaleidoscope that started their collection was the electronic kaleidoscope by Peach Reynolds. Steve bought it at the Merchandise Mart in Chicago, Illinois. It changes by sound (music).

Over the years, Linda and Steve have met many artists and collectors and consider it an added plus that many of them are now friends. They never ceased to be amazed at the creativity of today's artists and the new "spin" they continue to put on an "old" art form. Just when you think you've seen it all, you haven't."

Stepping into KaleidoKites is to walk into a fantasy world of beautiful kites, windsocks, other things that fly and, of course, the kaleidoscopes. Linda and Steve never tire of watching a customer look into today's kaleidoscopes with their cutting edge mirrors and myriad objects and wait for the inevitable "wow."

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Image Wheels Kaleidoscope Kits
and lots of other Craft Kits and Supplies

[Http://www.BostonCraftWorks.com](http://www.BostonCraftWorks.com)

The Kaleidoscope Report

"An open forum for kaleidoscope builders"

<http://thekaleidoscopereport.blogspot.com>

All professional artists are encouraged to join.

Contact

Marty@kaleidoscopestudios.com
for invitation

Kaleidoscope YAHOO Groups

For those who don't know, there are two moderated Yahoo groups dedicated to kaleidoscopes and kaleidoscope-related topics: Kaleidoscopecollector and KBKB (which stands for Kaleidoscope Builders Knowledge Base).

The Kaleidoscopecollector group is primarily designed for kaleidoscope collectors, kaleidoscope artists and kaleidoscope dealers to discuss kaleidoscopes and related subjects.

The KBKB group is focused on helping those looking for information on building kaleidoscopes, or wanting to discuss any aspect of design, construction, presentation or marketing.

To join either or both,
visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/>
and insert either kaleidoscopecollector or kbkb in the 'Find a Yahoo! Group' textbox.

"Got an idea for a cartoon?...send it to Wiley at usjobs@aol.com"

Featured Artist: Charles Sorg

This month's column is an interview with kaleidoscope artist Charles J Sorg who makes magic ... and it's all with glass, sweat and mirrors.

Tell us about yourself - how did you become interested in creating scopes?

From my earliest memories, I have always wanted to be an artist. I worked as an artist in a major department store (for 16 years). I started making kaleidoscopes in 1986 shortly after being laid off. I needed something to do when I wasn't doing freelance commercial work, so I started making small glass kaleidoscopes in my spare time. As with most artists, the art evolves. I started making more scopes, experimenting on both the bodies and with the mirror systems. Just before the turn of the century, I started what I call my Blue Nugget series. This is when I literally started to think "outside the scope." Since then, I have pushed the boundaries of my knowledge, never giving up excellence.

All of the scopes in my Blue Nugget series have these things in common - the bodies are made of white and sky blue art glass combined with deep blue glass cabochons as focal points.

What influences you when you are creating a particular scope?

Each scope is an experiment for the next scope; I'm always learning something new. I push my creativity and try to expand my knowledge. I think this is why I like to create a series of scopes: variations on a theme, all different and unique, but with similar characteristics...like a family. And always, I'm fine-tuning the craft of high quality construction.

What scopes are your favorites?

Usually my last scope is my favorite...until I make the next one.

What was/is your most challenging scope (or type) to produce?

'TRANSITION' is by far and away my most difficult scope. Most of my scopes take a week to a month to make depending on the complexity of the designs and variety of materials used. 'TRANSITION' took two years to finish. I wasn't working on it 24/7; there was a six month gap between the time I wanted a kiln and when I actually bought one. Once the kiln was delivered, everything fell into place and eight months later, I finished it. The 3-inch diameter marble was made by James Alloway, a very notable marble maker. I thought it was important to have one collaborative piece in my repertoire.

My kaleidoscope 'TRANSITION' started out as an experiment. I wanted to design a marble scope totally



unlike any kaleidoscope that I have ever seen. I found an artist who made wonderful and very large marbles: +/- 3 inches, in diameter, which meant the scope would need to be large.

I planned for the scope to be all curves using small pieces of flat glass, pieced together to form the curves. Then one day I experimented with the glass piece that was going to be positioned at the very apex of the scope. I heated it with a torch to get just a little curve in it. Wow! I liked it. I also did this to the next two pieces but from then on every piece of glass I tried to slump, cracked or exploded. I knew that I would need a kiln if I ever wanted to finish this scope.

Tell us about what direction you're going in your latest scopes.

I'm always influenced by the natural world, but I never know what pattern, or artifact, or constellation or critter is going to inspire me. Right now, no matter what inspires me, my center of attention is on color and color design.

What advice would you have for someone starting out?

If you are just starting out, have faith in your ability to "imagine" and don't be afraid to push yourself into new areas of creation and experimentation. Oh, yeah...and study up on running a small business.

If you are interested in seeing about 15% of all the kaleidoscopes I made through the years, check out my Facebook page (under my name). Most of the older ones are long gone.

2009-2010 Schedule of Events

October 23 - 25, 2009: Reflections Through Glass and Mirror: Nellie Bly in Jerome AZ hosts its 15th annual Kaleidoscope Weekend. This year the festival's theme is "Snow White and the Seven or Eight Dwarfs" and aims to raise money for the Jerome Humane Society. Many classes are being offered throughout the weekend. For more information call Mary or Sally at 928-634-0255 and visit nbscopes.com.

November 13 – December 6, 2009: Infinite Reflections: Kaleidoscope Magic and Wonder, Over 100 unique hand-crafted kaleidoscopes will be featured from traditional hand-held to limited edition and specialty collectors' scopes. Eclectic Galleries, 2405 3rd Street South, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250, 904-247-3750, www.eclecticgalleries.com

June 10 - 13, 2010: Kaleidoscope Reflections 20: Brewster Kaleidoscope Society's Twentieth Convention
Hyatt Regency Santa Clara, 5101 Great American Parkway, Santa Clara, CA 95054 (408) 200-1234
A registration form and all the details will be available soon.

2009 Teaching schedule of Scott Cole (scott@laughingeye.com ... 828-837-6103)

October 23,24	Nellie Bly	Jerome AZ	Etching Special	
November 20-22	John C Campbell Folk School	Brasstown NC	Weekend	Skills

2010 Teaching schedule

January 24-30	John C Campbell Folk School	Brasstown NC	Week	Skills
April 9-11	John C Campbell Folk School	Brasstown NC	Weekend	Skills
April/May 30-2	John C Campbell Folk School	Brasstown NC	Weekend	Skills
June 13-19	John C Campbell Folk School	Brasstown NC	Week	Skills

Other classes will likely be scheduled so feel free to inquire about additions.

Classes are usually full, so be sure to register early.

Special advanced projects can be arranged during most intermediate or skills classes, just contact me.

For registration information, please contact the sponsoring organization:

John C Campbell Folk School	800.365.5724
Nellie Bly	928.634.0255



THE BREWSTER KALEIDOSCOPE SOCIETY

www.brewstersociety.com

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